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10 April 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: First Meeting of Reconstituted R&D Board
4 April 1972

PRESENT: Mr. Duckett DDS&T
Chairman

Members:

Cord Meyer	DDP
Don Steininger	DDS&T
Paul Walsh	DDI
Bob Wattles	DDS

Chuck Briggs	O/PPB
Executive Secretary	

1. Chairman ran through the history of R&D Board efforts, beginning with Bud Wheelon and carrying through last year's DCI conference decisions on R&D. Continuing Board problems concerned compartmentation and attempts to divide funds. He noted that the recent ExDir policy paper on R&D reaffirms: a) DCI conference decisions concerning the approach toward R&D in CIA (not a CIA mission nor separate program, but integral to all Directorates); b) S&T (ORD) role vis-a-vis exploratory R&D; c) DCI desire for DD/S&T to continue as single focal point for R&D advice, with the Board to act in support. Discussion of the ORD exploratory role included the Chairman's statement that he has argued for as much as 20% of ORD's budget for "high-risk" efforts--in terms both of anticipated success and customer interest. Members expressed the need for periodic review by potential customers and noted that, in effect, DD/S&T would be spending the high-risk money; the issue would be: how much can be afforded? Brief discussion also ensued concerning the DD/S&T cross-directorate focal point role vis-a-vis the O/PPB function.

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2. The Chairman stated his hope that the Board could establish general goals for R&D, look at program trends and help him analyze and suggest shifts in emphasis, particularly in high-risk areas.

3. The Technical Coordinating Committee is to be the working body supporting the Board. They are not to be a voting body. Discussion included the suggestion that all technical offices might be represented--that exchange among the right people on a particular problem is the real focus. In addition to occasional studies, the Committee could take review initiatives. The Chairman stated emphatically that he thought avoidance of duplication ought not to be a first question, but should come to the fore later. Also, he thought that the Committee could identify those projects for which special multipurpose management groups might be formed (e.g., in the past: [redacted] in the future perhaps: [redacted])

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4. The Chairman urged the members to think about security compartmentation, [redacted] suggesting that the Board ought to know the whole R&D picture. Perhaps a subset of the working group could address individual projects.

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5. An illustrative list of issues which might be addressed by the Board was distributed. Review of the R&D portions of the FY 74 Program submissions was suggested as another possible starting point. Mention was also made of perhaps having some R&D input to the Director's conference, tentatively planned for second week in May.

6. Action. The Chairman asked that:

a. Don Steininger call the Technical Coordinating Committee together soon.

b. Dr. Steininger consider the practicality of reviewing the R&D portions of the FY 74 Program.

c. The Board meet again soon to consider business not attended to, including an R&D overview session with [redacted]

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d. Members review, add to or delete from the Issues list and try to rank the Issues.

/s/ Charles A. Briggs

Charles A. Briggs
Executive Secretary
R&D Board

Distribution:

Mr. Colby
Mr. Duckett
Mr. Meyer
Dr. Steininger
Mr. Walsh
Mr. Wattles
Mr. Briggs

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